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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 427
By Baird

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Esco L. Owens on his
installation as "Most Worshipful Grand Master"
for the State of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, It is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to
specially recognize those Tennesseans who, through their extraordinary efforts, have
distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, Esco L. Owens is one such outstanding citizen who will well serve the
Scottish Rite Masons as their "Most Worshipful Grand Master" for the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Born June 26, 1932 in Pioneer, Tennessee, he is the son of Seborn and
Odea Stevens Owens; and

WHEREAS, Esco Owens enlisted in the United States Navy on December 12, 1952; he
admirably served in the field of Aviation Electronics until his honorable discharge in November
1956, as Petty Officer 3rd Class; and

WHEREAS, A sterling scholar, Mr. Owens graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree
in Mathematics, with a minor in Physics, from Lincoln Memorial University in 1960; and

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WHEREAS, Throughout his life, Esco L. Owens has distinguished himself as a consummate professional, earning the respect and admiration of his peers and superiors for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, He served meritoriously and skillfully as a school teacher at Jacksboro High School from 1960 through 1964 and then for the rest of his outstanding career as a valuable employee of TVA; and

WHEREAS, After his retirement from TVA, Mr. Owens attended Jacksboro Vocational School as a student machinist; and

WHEREAS, Esco L. Owens is a valuable member of the Scottish Rite Masons; and

WHEREAS, Presently serving as Class Director and as a member of the Board of the Scottish Rite Bodies, Southern Jurisdiction, he has ably served in the past as Campbell County District 18 Chairman for the Knoxville Scottish Rite Bodies and as Master and Secretary for the Jacksboro Masonic Lodge; and

WHEREAS, On March 29, 2001, Esco Owens was elected to the prestigious office of "Most Worshipful Grand Master" for the State of Tennessee; in the past one hundred and eighty-eight years, he is the first Mason to be elected as the Grand Master for the State of Tennessee from Campbell County; and

WHEREAS, His many accomplishments aside, Mr. Owens is fortunate to share both love and companionship with his wife, Charlotte Overbey Owens, and their three children; and

WHEREAS, Esco L. Owens epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated community leader, and reliable friend and neighbor; he is an exceptional asset to his community and this State; and

WHEREAS, A remarkable Tennessean, he is most deserving of the respect and recognition of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor Esco L. Owens on his installation as the Scottish Rite

Masons' "Most Worshipful Grand Master," for the State of Tennessee and extend to him our best wishes for every continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we join with the citizens of Campbell County in recognizing May 26, 2001 as "The Honorable Esco Owens Day."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.